

## President's Column

### Have We Outgrown Our Organizational Values?

There's no doubt that we are a changing, and changed, congregation. For some of the old-timers, our synagogue is a whole different animal than it was when they joined. Remember when we had no building, no rabbi, no office staff, and ran everything with volunteers, they ask? Remember when we knew everyone, and I mean everyone, at services every Friday? Who are all these new people, with their complicated and different needs and interests, crowding into our sanctuary? What is this Institution we've become?



Tiela Chalmers

And the new folks say, what's with all the requests for volunteers, and the homegrown services? With a synagogue of this size and stature, why doesn't our rabbi lead services all the time, and why don't we hire a cantor? Why not just let the office staff handle all these organizational tasks?

As you can see from elsewhere in this *Forward*, the congregation is embarking on an exciting new fundraising program designed to help us meet the expanding needs and interests of our members, and to achieve some of our dreams. (More on this next month.) This new plan highlights for us the challenges that face an innovative and grass-roots organization like ours as it becomes more established and larger.

It is, of course, a little ironic for us that a congregation that started out as a small group of lay leaders, committed to doing things ourselves, our way, is now faced with the challenges of maintaining our integrity now that we are more mainstream. Back when we started, there was no network of gay and lesbian rabbis to call upon, no published books dealing with gay-sensitive liturgy and synagogue structure — in fact, it was the late 70s: feminism was not even very well-developed. The notion of a

gay synagogue was radical: the idea that we would one day find ourselves in the mainstream must have seemed a pipe dream, at best.

Without the assistance of the Reform Jewish establishment, we opted for a structure within our reach. Not only did we not have gay rabbis wandering around applying for jobs; we could not have afforded a rabbi then, if we had wanted to. Not really feeling like a full-fledged synagogue (with a building, religious school and other bells and whistles) we didn't feel able to institute a dues structure similar to those at most synagogues, which would have allowed us to hire professional staff.

But our lay-led structure was motivated by more than the force of these circumstances. We had (and have) a strongly held belief in making our spiritual and Jewish community lives a collective responsibility, rather than the domain of a few professionals. We believed in self-determination: in striking

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## Introduction to Judaism

Would you like to learn more about Judaism? Interested in exploring conversion? Aren't sure what is required? Are you curious about what it means to become a Jew-by-Choice?

Answers to all these questions will be available at an "Introduction to Judaism/Choosing Judaism" Open House on Wednesday, October 5, at 7:30 pm at the synagogue. Rabbi Yoel Kahn and several resource people will discuss the meaning and process of conversion, the "Introduction to Judaism" program at CSZ and related issues. This program is open to the community, regardless of prior background, affiliation or study. If you have friends who have expressed interest in exploring Judaism, bring them as your guests! Please call the synagogue office to reserve a place if you plan to attend.

If you are interested in being a Jewish mentor to a prospective Jew-by-Choice, regardless of your level of Jewish education or expertise, please contact Rabbi Kahn.



Shofar blowers Gordon Osser, Ellie Cohen, Sharma Gaponoff, Dev Noily, Marion Trentman on Erev Rosh Hashanah. Photo by Michael Bettinger.



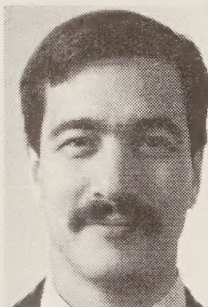
## Rabbi's Column

### Support Reform Judaism in Israel

Since last year's announcement of the accord between Israel and the PLO, there have also been strong signals of an increasing recognition of the need for societal change in Israel. As the reality of a negotiated peace keeps unfolding in dramatic fashion, Israelis are increasingly looking inward to determine the type of society in which they will live. An unfortunate irony of life in Israel is that it is the only democratic country in the world that does not provide religious freedom for Jews! This issue, relatively dormant for many years, is coming to the forefront and I urge you to become involved in this and other important campaigns for social justice in Israel.

The Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA) is the Israeli arm of the Reform Movement. With the help of over 60 CSZ members, ARZA is creating an infrastructure for the hundreds of thousands of spiritually disenfranchised Jews in Israel, exposing them to the values, rituals and celebrations that we are able to experience in this country.

ARZA's Israel Religious Action (IRAC) in Jerusalem is the strongest voice for pluralism, religious freedom and social justice in Israel. It was through IRAC's efforts that Jews-by-Choice were finally recognized as Jews in Israel, regardless of the stream of Judaism through which the conversion took place. Funding, albeit in small amounts, has finally been channeled to non-Orthodox institutions in Israel due to IRAC's efforts. Thanks to ARZA and IRAC, our Israeli sisters and brothers increasingly have an opportunity to make informed religious choices without the rigidity of Orthodoxy. Some of you may also remember ARZA, standing alone among American Zionist organizations, refusing to participate in New York's 1993 Salute to Israel because the organizers refused to permit that city's gay/lesbian outreach synagogue to participate. CSZ member Ron Lezell serves as Northern California President of ARZA.



Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Membership in ARZA is open only to individuals, not to organizations. When you receive your quarterly dues statement from CSZ, you will also find a line marked ARZA. I urge you to join me in becoming a supporter of religious freedom and civil rights in Israel through membership in ARZA. ARZA has stood up for what we believe in and has taken unequivocal, public stands repeatedly on our behalf. Your membership in ARZA will make you a partner in Reform Judaism's efforts to bring the Jewish and democratic values we cherish to the people and land of Israel. Please join me in fulfilling this important mitzvah.

### Spiritual Support for CSZ Members Living with HIV

CSZ members with HIV and their lovers/spouses are invited to participate in our on-going, drop-in support group, facilitated by Rabbi Yoel Kahn. The next meeting will be at CSZ on Saturday afternoon, October 15, from 3-5 pm. For more information, to receive mailings about future programs or to RSVP for the October 15 meeting, please call Rabbi Kahn at the synagogue.

### Volunteers Help Make the Holidays Happen

—Jeff Forman,  
High Holiday Logistical Chair

Our congregation is unique for many reasons, one of which is the high proportion of involved members. Additionally, many non-members lend a hand, especially at High Holiday time.

Volunteering for the Holidays takes many forms.

Some are behind the scenes. Ticket requests and distribution take months of work. Services need to be set up in advance of congregants' arrival and setting up a break-fast on Yom Kippur is done while everyone fasts.

During services, service leaders and the ensemble guide us through our prayers; ushers keep traffic flowing smoothly so we can pray with less distraction. People volunteer for childcare so congregants can worship, knowing that their children are being tended. Or, parents and children can attend children's services run by volunteers. On Yom Kippur, tikkunim are held to help people grow spiritually on the holiest day.

Because of printing deadlines, we are unable to thank all volunteers by name in this issue, but will do so next month. In the November *Forward* we will give volunteers the recognition they deserve.



Before services, Erev Rosh Hashanah. Photo by Michael Bettinger.



## A Mezuzah On the Doorpost Does Not a Peaceful Home Make

— Elizabeth Landsberg

Though this truth goes against many of our cultural and religious beliefs—there is domestic violence in the Jewish community. Battering in Jewish families is as prevalent as in other religions and cultures, but we still don't want to talk about it. Why?

Judaism is based on principles of *mitzvot* and moral justice. We have had to be a strong, resilient people sticking together as much as possible. Within our anti-Semitic world we rely on the Jewish home as a haven of peace. These powerful aspects of our Jewishness and the assaults on us throughout history make it that much more distressing to recognize the violence within our community.

Similarly, domestic violence in our lesbian, gay and bisexual relationships is painful to acknowledge. Yet, domestic violence knows no barriers. It occurs in every race, ethnicity, religion, sexual identity, educational background, age, socio-economic class and physical ability. Domestic violence looks much the same in same-sex relationships and in the Jewish community as it does with heterosexual couples and in the non-Jewish world. Yet, there are added elements such as internalized anti-Semitism and homophobia, and dynamics such as threatening to out the victim.

Our beliefs about Jewish and queer relationships make admitting domestic violence that much harder which in turn makes it more difficult for the victims of abuse. The archetype of the strong, loud, pushy Jewish woman is hard to see as a victim. And we all know what wonderful partners Jewish men make, so how can they be abusive? Furthermore, our beliefs about equal, utopian gay and lesbian relationships do not include family violence.

Battered women are already isolated by the power of their abuser. The stereotypes of Jewish men, women and families keep Jewish battered women ashamed, alone and blaming themselves. We need to send the message to battered women that it is a shanda to act abusively, but it is not a shame to seek help.

A Jewish response to this Jewish problem is vital. We need to understand what domestic violence is, and looks like, to be ready to recognize it in our communities.

Domestic violence is a pattern by which one person in a relationship systematically controls the other through fear, intimidation, threats, insults, emotional abuse, economic control, isolation or physical violence. It occurs between intimate partners or between other family members such as parents and their adult children. Domestic violence occurs within a three-part cycle which includes the tension-building phase, the violent explosion and the honeymoon phase. After the violent incident, the abuser may express regret, promise to change, or blame the victim for what happened. This honeymoon period is usually followed by another tension-building phase as the cycle continues. Domestic violence can be life-threatening and must be taken seriously.

You can help create a society where victims of domestic violence feel safer seeking help and where violence is not tolerated.

- INTERRUPT domestic abuse by calling the police and naming it as violence.
- LISTEN to your friend, relative or acquaintance who tells you she/he is being abused. Tell her/him that she/he does not deserve to be abused.
- BELIEVE someone who is courageous enough to tell their story of abuse, even if the abuser is your friend, relative or a well-respected community leader. Ask how you can be supportive.
- CONTRIBUTE to and VOLUNTEER for your local domestic violence program.
- ORGANIZE an event in your community to raise awareness and funds to help victims of domestic violence.

On October 2, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will take a step towards breaking the silence of domestic violence in our communities. The program, convened by Shalom Bayit and B'nai Brith Women and co-sponsored by CSZ, is on **Sunday, October 2 from 5 to 7 at CSZ**. Women are invited to attend the event, which will specifically address issues of violence against women. A subsequent program is being planned to deal with issues of gay battering.

### Women's Chavurah Potluck and Havdalah Service

The Women's Chavurah is planning its bi-monthly Havdalah service and potluck, to be held in the East Bay at the home of Audrey Adelson, Saturday, October 29, at 6:30 pm. Besides the usual great food and schmoozing, we will be deciding on autumn and early winter activities for the Chavurah. This is the time to make your preferences known! We welcome all interested women and their partners to help contribute new and exciting ideas to make the upcoming season a memorable one. For directions and further information, please RSVP to Audrey (510/849-3021).

### Kid Stuff

Brandeis Hillel Day School at 655 Brotherhood Way will hold a kindergarten open house on Tuesday, November 1, from 7 to 8:30 pm. For more information call Susan Levinson (406-1035).

Jewish Family and Children's Services at 3272 California Street provides a play activity group for children who have difficulty establishing social relationships. For more information call Jerry Benjamin (563-0335).

*Dr. Diane Sabin*

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## Imagine...

— Irene Ogus

Imagine fulfilling all the dreams you've ever had for this congregation. Imagine new prayerbooks, more classes, more lectures, more social events, more for children, young adults, adults and seniors — everyone — more of whatever we want. Your leadership has these dreams too and if you've visited the synagogue office recently you've seen, perched high above the synagogue library shelves, between the books and rafters, a collection of new cardboard boxes. Colored markers inscribe each one with the mission and goals for our congregation. This is what some of them say: "Inclusiveness & Diversity," "Tikkun Olam," "Life Cycle Events," "Programming for Teens," "Israel," "Professional Staff," "Chavurot/Small Groups," "Sustained Volunteerism," "Gay/Lesbian Identity," "Financial Stability."

This past July, at the leadership Advance in the sunny hills overlooking the Russian River, these cartons came to represent the building blocks of our synagogue community. We recognize that this is the programming our membership wants and deserves; the work now begins to make these dreams a reality.

The problem, of course, is money. Currently the synagogue budget contains barely enough to cover basic overhead expenses — salaries, maintenance, supplies, utilities — leaving only about \$20,000 available for programming and enrichment of our congregational life. Realizing that membership dues cover only these bare necessities, we must find ways to fund the enhancement of our synagogue life. It's important for us also to begin to understand that dues are simply an obligation of membership. The second step is when we begin to think of the synagogue as one of the charities we give to each year, and to decide what amount our charitable gifts to the synagogue will be.

An ad-hoc committee has been working since August to explore fundraising options and that committee's work has resulted in the formation of our first Annual Renewable Fundraising Campaign. The Campaign will begin in November 1994 and end in April 1995. The goals are:

1. To raise \$40,000, most of which will be used to launch programs during the 1995-96 year but some

of which will be used to implement some programs immediately.

2. To develop charitable giving to CSZ.
3. To encourage support for the endowment fund.
4. To assess the opportunities for a building campaign.

A letter will be going out shortly to all members providing details of the Campaign. As we enter the New Year and our eighteenth year at Sha'ar Zahav we must continue to grow together. The Annual Renewable Fundraising Campaign will enable our synagogue to become even more than it is today — a richer, fuller, spiritual, social and cultural home for us all — more than you could ever have imagined.

### New Mailing Policy

The Va'ad has voted to change CSZ policy on mailings. Beginning next month, "Congregation Sha'ar Zahav" will be printed on the outside of all mailings, including the *Jewish Gaily Forward*. We recognize that some individuals would prefer to receive mailings without our name on the outside and we will be happy to accommodate you. Please call the office and let us know.

## New Format for Jewish Parents of Lesbians and Gay Men Discussion Group

A supportive and confidential monthly discussion group will begin again on October 25 with a new format for 1994-95. This year, the group will have a scheduled topic, guest speaker, video or book discussion at each meeting. The group meets on the last Tuesday of each month, from 7-9 pm at Jewish Family Service, 987 University Ave., Suite 27, Los Gatos. Any Jewish parent with a gay or lesbian child is welcome to participate. This is a place where you can discuss your questions, feelings, beliefs, etc.

**October 25** – Ten Common Questions About Homosexuality

**November 29** – Dealing With Holidays

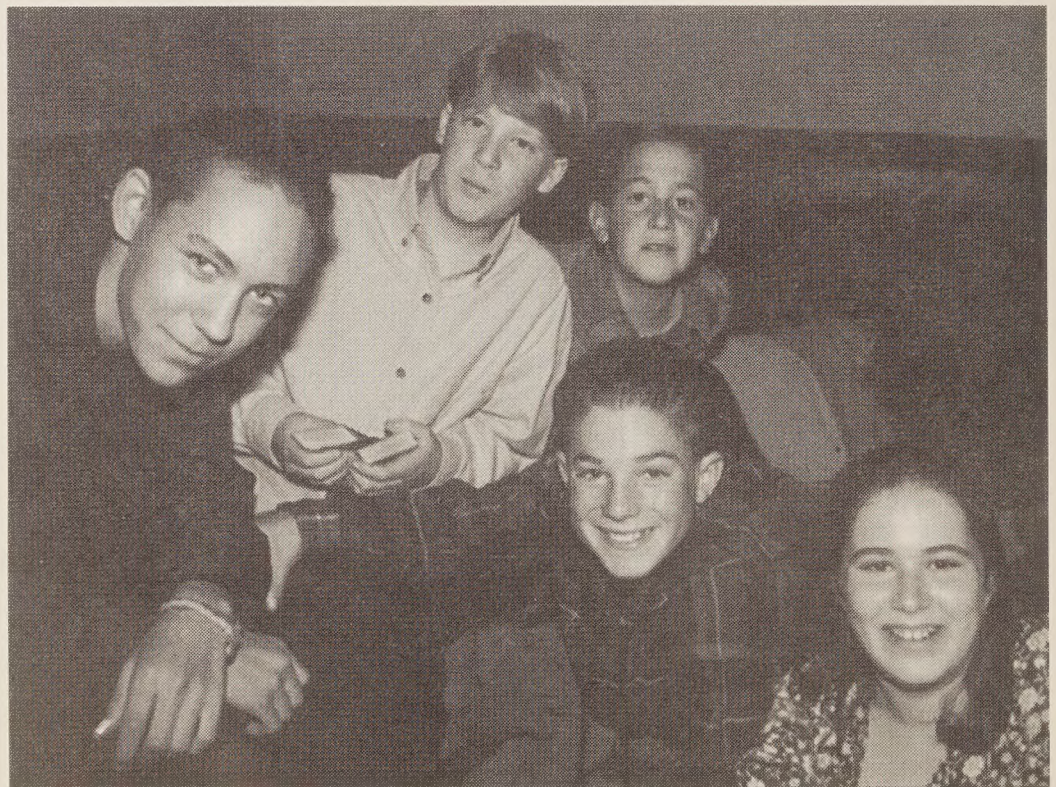
**December 27** – Video: "Gay Teens" (Donahue)

**January 31** – Jewish Perspectives on Homosexuality

For more information, please call Karen Belford, MSW, at Jewish Family Service (399-2202).

## High Holiday Sermons

Copies of this year's High Holiday sermons by Rabbi Kahn, Phyllis Mintzer, Judy Schwartz and Rabbi Nancy Flam are available from the synagogue office.



The younger generation, Erev Rosh Hashanah. Photo by Michael Bettinger.



## Bioethics Seminars

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, in conjunction with its Adult Education Program, will present a four-part series of seminars this fall entitled **Bioethics: Critical Issues for the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Community**. These seminars are partially funded by the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) Foundation and will be open to the community.

The four sessions will cover the following areas, emphasizing ethical and gay concerns:

- **The Human Genome Project** — Ronald Bachman, MD, and Laurie Zoloth Dorfman, RN, Ph.D., Tuesday, October 11, 7-9:30 pm

A look at the current federal effort to map all human genes and the implications for our community.

- **Health Care Reform** — Laurie Zoloth Dorfman, RN, Ph.D., Catherine Dodd, RN, MS, another speaker TBA, Tuesday, October 18, 7-9:30 pm

An examination of recent federal legislation and a presentation on the Single Payer Initiative on the November ballot.

- **Assisted Suicide** — Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Donald Abrams, MD, Tom Traylor, MSW, Rev. Sharma Sutherin, Tuesday, October 25, 7-9:30 pm

A discussion of issues for health care providers, family and friends.

- **The Paradox of Control: End-of-life Decision Making** — Neil Kudler, MD, Ora Prochovnick, Esq., Daniel Chesir, Esq., another speaker TBA, Sunday, October 30, 2-5:30 pm

A presentation of the ethical, medical and legal ramifications of decisions to be made at the end of life. Participants will be invited to complete their own Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care.

All sessions will be held in the sanctuary at CSZ. Call the office for information.

## President

out on our own, and finding the aspects of Judaism that spoke to us, moving away from the liturgical and cultural aspects of Judaism that excluded us as gays, lesbians, women.

We had no rabbi, then, for the first eight years of our synagogue life. Services were led by lay members of the Ritual Committee. We struggled mightily to ensure that women were included in our roster of service leaders, trying to provide training for those of us who did not have a rich Jewish educational background. Lay leaders provided the liturgy and the service leading, taught the education classes, organized the library, put together social programs, raised funds to buy a building, visited the sick.

After eight years, though, our membership had grown to a little less than 200, and we saw that it would be wonderful to have a rabbi to share his or her wisdom, training and time with us. Not only that, there were beginning to be "out" rabbis available, and heterosexual rabbis interested in working with a gay and lesbian congregation. With great joy, we set out to hire a part-time rabbi, and found Rabbi Kahn, a happy match that is entering its 11th year. It was a challenge for us to work out the division of labor — who decided what? was there a line where the lay dominion ended and the rabbinic one began? But we struggled with these issues and found our way, forging each year a slightly different balance.

As the years have gone by, we have hired an office manager and a secretary, a janitor, religious school teachers and a principal, and a program director. Many are part-time, but becoming a larger part of our congregational organization all the time. And still, we always feel behind: there is so much to do! We have

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around 530 members: a far cry from the 150 here when we stepped out into this brave new world ten years ago.

The problem is, there is a lot to do, and a lot to coordinate: we really need more staff, and more programs for all these new people. Social programming for 150 people can conceivably be done by a few volunteers; it's a lot harder for volunteers to do that same kind of programming for 530. This is particularly true because, as our numbers grow, the need for one person to coordinate all of the different programs gets stronger, and it is the rare volunteer ready to take on such a big job. Our needs, too, have grown more diverse: many more children, more heterosexual and bisexual people; more adults and children wanting to become bar or bat mitzvah; more of us developing into elders; HIV making more inroads into our community.

But we still have much of our same ideal: empowering lay leadership. Many of us have bad feelings about the culture of our synagogues as we were growing up: all community matters left to the rabbi and the staff, with the members coming and going as passive participants, like members of a social club or even a gym. We want more grassroots participation than that. Partly this is because we are a synagogue, and we want our activities to be an expression of the spiritual and community feeling in all of us. In addition, for some of us this is a more generalized political sentiment: we would rather be doing things ourselves, taking responsibility for our own environment and needs and the needs of others, than having them done for us. And indeed, this is one of the hallmarks of our congregation. Each year, as we attend conventions put on

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## P-FLAG Honors Jewish Group

On September 4, at its national convention in San Francisco, P-FLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) granted its first Flag Bearer Award to Rabbi David Saperstein and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Other recipients of the award were Senator Barry Goldwater, Dr. Joseph A. Fernandez, Governor William Weld, and Apple Computer, Inc.

In granting the award, which was accepted by Commission on Social Action members Allyce Kimerling and Mike Rankin, P-FLAG hailed the Religious Action Center as "a longtime supporter of lesbian and gay civil rights. As part of the social action arm of the UAHC, it supports and carries out the resolutions affirming lesbian and gay civil rights that the UAHC passed as far back as 1977. The Religious Action Center demonstrates the valuable message that people of faith do support equal rights for homosexuals."

Rabbi Saperstein asked Allyce and Mike to deliver the following message on his behalf:

On behalf of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, we are deeply honored to accept the Flag Bearer Award from P-FLAG, and especially honored to be the first recipient of this award.

Family and home are central to Judaism and Jewish life: our "traditional family values" are more than five thousand years old. Far from eroding these traditional family values, we have found that opening our arms to our lesbian and gay children, relatives and friends has strengthened these values and our families. Welcoming gays and lesbians into our synagogues and our pulpits has strengthened Judaism. Fighting for gay and lesbian rights, both nationally and locally, has kept alive Judaism's prophetic call to pursue justice. To all those who would discriminate, exclude and bash gays and lesbians we say: hate is not a family value; intolerance is not a family virtue; bigotry is not a family preserver. To all those who use God and religion to justify homophobia, we say: you have never, will never, and do not now represent the vast majority of reli-

gious Americans who love and cherish all God's children.

Over the past decade, Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians And Gays has courageously, forcefully and repeatedly stood up to the hate mongers, the bigots, the gay bashers and said, "When you attack gays and lesbians, you attack us all." With patience and compassion, you have educated those who know little of this issue, showing them that gays and lesbians are not perverts but real human beings: our friends, our relatives, our loved ones. You have provided justice-loving straight men and women a meaningful way to support our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters as they struggle for equality. Founded out of the tragedy of a brutal hate crime, you have answered that crime with over a decade of love, tolerance, and building bridges — and in so doing, you have undoubtedly prevented many more hate crimes. When at times it has seemed that hatred and division might prevail, you have stood as a light in the

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## A Convert's Journey

—Jeffrey Lilly

As a young boy, I was enthralled by Leon Uris's *Exodus*. About the same time, I remember being moved by the brilliant discourse of Israeli Ambassador Abba Eban before the United Nations. But I was also shocked by reading of the horror of the Holocaust.

I was raised to be a Presbyterian and became a member of the Presbyterian church while still in elementary school. At a young age I was devout, but after taking a philosophy course in junior high and reading people such as Voltaire and Spinoza, I became intrigued by other

ideas. At the same time, I was entering the difficult period of adolescence. By the time I was a junior in high school, I had lived in seven different homes in six different cities. Moving around a lot was not my only atypical experience growing up. When we lived outside of Philadelphia, for example, my Sunday school class at a mainline church visited different religious denominations. The week we were scheduled to go to a synagogue, my parents kept me home. I had been looking forward to going, but I was not to enter a synagogue until years later when I landed in my second home of choice, San Francisco.

My first love affair was with a classmate, another boy, at about the age of fourteen. The affair ended when my father got a new job in Philadelphia, after he had become embroiled in a price-fixing scandal. My image of my father was greatly shaken. For a while, I tried to repair this image through political activism, but this seemed to violate my own conscience and sense of self. My first love affair had become tainted by the sense of shame that my father had never expressed for his own behavior. And I in turn was not listening to the murmurs of

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Earnings Devoted to Philanthropy

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## Convert

my own heart. I was not taking responsibility for my own behavior, for my own personal history. I repressed the memory of my first love, but have since learned to treasure it. I wrote a poem about that affair after being inspired by one of Rabbi Kahn's sermons. The poem is one of those found on my music poetry cassette, *Promised Land Poems*.

In 1964 I was in Durham, North Carolina as a Duke University freshman. Here I became politically, rather than sexually, active. Four years later I was in the Air Force, where I was trained as a Russian linguist. During that time, I was interrogated in a homosexual witch hunt, which has been a defining moment for me. My writing and social service work are a response to the ignoble attitudes of

many military personnel and to my own sense of inadequacy during the inquisition. The Jewish concept of t'shuvah has played a central role in my art and my conversion. I describe my road to conversion in a novel in verse entitled *Leaves Timely Fallen*.

On January 12, 1993, I said three blessings, one after each submersion in the ritual waters of a mikvah. Although my chanted song undoubtedly lacked the singer's voice, each time I emerged from that wombly sea I said the blessing with the fervent sort of pride born of work and longing. Nearby that Sacramento Street mikvah is the entrance to Menorah Park, a residence for Jewish elderly. My training as a Russian linguist and my lengthy social service experience, have allowed me to do some work there. Also close by is the Jewish Community Center, where I was a member in the late seventies and mid-eighties, and where I not long ago read some of my Jewish poetry.

Within walking distance is Temple Emanu-El. I first went there when Rabbi Asher led the congregation. I fell in love with his eloquence and bearing. At Temple Emanu-El I took an Introduction to Judaism course, attended my first seder in a decade, and went to the Bet Din, the Rabbinical court, where I now accompany a group of residents from the Jewish Home once a month on Shabbat.

At my conversion at the mikvah, Rabbi Kahn and a rabbi from Temple Emanu-El listened to my recitations. Following the last blessing, I emerged from the water, dressed in a nearby room, and then went

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## Naches

**To Nancy Meyer & Marilyn O'Keeffe** on Nancy's adoption of their son, **Daniel Neill Meyer-O'Keeffe**.

**To Allan Berenstein**, on the birth of his third grandchild, Andrew Paul Berenstein.

**To Susan L. Feldman & Jeffrey Argentos**, on their marriage.

**To Alex Ingersoll & David Stein** on celebrating their 20th anniversary.

**To Stephan Howard**, on being unanimously elected union representative for Irwin Memorial Blood Centers.

**To Sam Kaplan**, on his new job as regional director of ADL in Virginia and North Carolina.

## Help Welcome New Ritual Objects

Please plan on joining us at services Saturday morning, November 12, beginning at 10:30. At this service we will welcome several new and very exciting additions to our ritual objects collection. In particular, we will welcome our new Torah, purchased with the generous help of many members, including in particular the estate of Robert Coffman. Rabbi Kahn, Robin Leonard and Larry Wexler purchased our beautiful new Torah in Israel during our congregational trip last year. Its beautiful and very clear calligraphy makes Torah reading dramatically more accessible. We will also welcome two new pairs of rimmonim — Torah crowns — to keep the one set we have company. That will give us crowns for all three of our Torahs. These sterling silver crowns were purchased with the generous donations of our members Charles Norton and Ed Tanovitz. Finally, we will welcome new Torah covers for all three Torahs, lovingly designed and stitched by Daniel Chesir's friend Linda Michaels in honor of Daniel's 50th birthday.

In addition to celebrating our recent acquisition of these items, we also mark the dedication of several items. Dedicating an item involves contributing a set amount established by the Va'ad. Rather than defraying the cost of the item, the contribution is directed to the synagogue's Endowment Fund, which serves as our nest egg and (soon) a source of income to the congregation as well. One of the Torah covers made by Linda Michaels is being dedicated by Irene Ogus in honor of her 50th birthday. In addition, we celebrate the recent gift by Don Albert to dedicate a new ark, to be constructed when we move to a new building. Finally, we officially welcome the wonderful portable ark made possible by a donation from Charles Norton. We have enjoyed this new ark at High Holiday services for two years now, and it has also made appearances in our sanctuary on Friday nights as well as at Shabbat services at the UAHC Biennial last year, where it was admired by an audience of over 4,000.

At this welcoming service we will acknowledge these generous gifts and celebrate these exciting additions to our ritual objects collection. Come prepared to sing and dance!



*The choir rehearsing before services, Erev Rosh Hashanah. Photo by Michael Bettinger.*



darkness, providing inspiration to all who fight for justice. Although you are not a religious organization, you are truly doing God's work. We intend to repay the great honor of this beautiful award with continued tireless work on behalf of gay and lesbian rights.

On behalf of 1.5 million Reform Jews and 1,700 Reform rabbis in 850 congregations in the United States and Canada, thank you — for this award and for your work.

## Mike Rankin's remarks

Friends, there is no honor we could have received that would make this gay Reform Jew more proud, and Allyce and I will have a few words of thanks in a moment.

But first, do you have any idea how nice it is, after years of patiently explaining why a nice Jewish doctor like me is not married, to be in a room filled with parents who, hearing I am single, will cheerfully accept the explanation that I haven't met the right one yet — or say "Oy, have we got a son for you!!!"

Actually, at my age, a brother, or an uncle, or a seasoned male friend would be better — but no matter. It feels great!

Now, about the award. Like all Jews, I love telling stories, and there is an important story about P-FLAG and Reform Judaism, and gay and lesbian Jews, that makes this award both right and inevitable.

Here's the story. About 20 years ago, a group of gay and lesbian Jews in Los Angeles, feeling excluded from mainstream synagogues, came together to form their own. Their congregation, Beth Chayim Chadashim, the House of New Life, prospered and grew, and with a wonderful chutzpah they decided to

*continued from page 6*

apply for membership in the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

This provoked a great debate. Even in small matters, where there are two Jews there are three opinions. In this case there were hundreds of Jews and thousands of opinions.

"They don't want a synagogue to pray in," one otherwise rational rabbi said at the time. "They just want a place to meet each other."

Shocking! A synagogue as a place where Jews could come together to meet other Jews. The idea!

But other, more compassionate voices were also heard. It's terrible that these, our sons and daughters, our sisters and brothers, feel excluded in our synagogues — but as long as they do, of course they should have one where they can feel comfortable and welcome, where they can feel supported, as they reclaim and enrich their Jewish heritage.

This opinion reflected the overwhelming majority. BCC was voted into membership, and became one of 850 Reform congregations in the US and Canada.

*Continued on page 9*

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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a *Forward* subscription.

## Members of the Newsletter Committee

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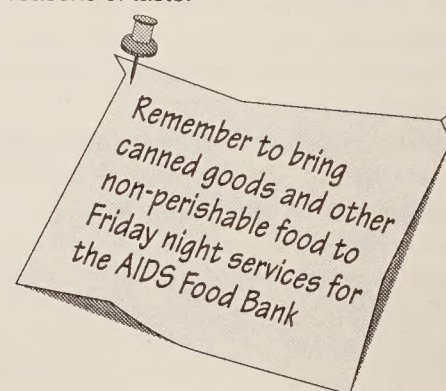
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## P-FLAG

*continued from page 8*

In the years that followed, more gay and lesbian congregations applied and were admitted, with no need for further debate. Six of the 30-plus congregations that make up the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations are now members of the UAHF, and others will be in the future.

These synagogues, some with fewer than 200 members, have transformed North American Judaism. Reform theology on human sexuality is not neutral on homosexuality, it is gay-affirming, and our publications reflect that.

Gay, lesbian, and bisexual Jews are represented at all levels of Reform Jewish leadership, including the board of trustees and executive committee. We ordain openly gay and lesbian rabbis. We teach about AIDS in our synagogues, and demand compassion and caring for PWAs and their loved ones.

The Torah portion for the most sacred days in our calendar, the ten days of reflection and repentance which begin at sundown tomorrow evening, traditionally include the passages from Leviticus XVIII, which condemn male homosexuality.

How painful it was for gay and lesbian Jews to sit in the synagogues on these holy days and hear our most loving feelings called an abomination.

Now, in many Reform congregations, the words we read are not from Leviticus 18, but from Leviticus 19: "You shall treat the stranger that is within your gates as one of your own, as a member of your family — for remember, you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

We have taken enormous strides in the last 20 years, thanks to the work of many compassionate people, both gay and heterosexual. But it all began with the courage of two members of P-FLAG who cannot be with us here tonight.

Twenty years ago, when others were equivocal, ambivalent, or silent, Rabbi Ervin and Agnes Herman, respected leaders of our Reform movement, spoke in the words of the prophets of Israel. They demanded justice, empathy, understanding, and love, not just for gay and lesbian Jews, but for all gay and lesbian people. I am honored to call Ag and Erv my teachers, my role models, and my friends. I thank them this night for all they have done. They are truly bearers of the flag.

## Planning Your Wedding/Union

If you anticipate scheduling a wedding or union ceremony in the next twelve to eighteen months, please plan on attending a "plan ahead" class with the Rabbi on Sunday, November 20. Watch the November *Forward* for details.

### Reach Out and Touch Someone

Are you available during the day or evening to assist CSZ members in need of an occasional helping hand?

Take that extra step. Call the Bikkur Cholim Committee at the CSZ office. Let us know that we can call you when the need arises.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

### Anniversaries

#### October

- 1 Brian Ellis & Steven Farmer
- 3 Linda Gerard & Daniel Grossman
- 11 Ellen Murland & Barbara Rinkoff
- 12 Alex Ingersoll & David Stein
- 13 Tiela Chalmers & Nancy Koch
- 17 Eileen Levy & Jeanette Nichols
- 20 Hilary Zaid & Lauren Augusta
- 23 Steven Gaynes & Richard Bolingbroter
- 29 Bill Goldstein & Chris Archuleta

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Festival of Lights

### Celebrate the Different Chanukah Traditions

—Greta Miskatel

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will celebrate Jewish diversity and freedom with our first-ever Sephardic/Mizrahi Chanukah party on Saturday, December 3 (time and location to be announced)!

By lighting the lights of the *Chanukiah* (menorah), we celebrate the miracle of the oil burning for eight days and the victory of a small group of Jews (the Maccabees) who fought the Greeks to live freely according to their own beliefs. Chanukah is the Festival of Lights and Jews throughout time, all over the world, have celebrated the holiday with fire, light and food in one way or another!

In Israel, Jews make a point of donating to the blind during Chanukah in appreciation of the miracle of light. In my own Greek Sephardic tradition, children go from house to house collecting flour, sugar and oil to cook the *burmuelos*, the Sephardic pancake eaten to remember the miracle of the oil (like the *latkes* of Ashkenazi tradition). Very tasty!

There is so much to share about our diversity as Jews: food, music, dancing, story telling and ritual. We need your help with this year's Chanukah party! We need stories of your unique traditions, whatever they might be. We need recipes. We need cooks. We need story tellers and musicians. We need volunteers to help organize before and during the event. We need anyone and everyone interested in helping! Please call Greta (455-0416) for more information.

## CHANUKAH COMES EARLY THIS YEAR

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## President

by the Reform movement, and meet our counterparts at (even more) mainstream congregations, the people we meet exclaim about how many more volunteers (and how much less money) we operate with, than do their own congregations. We are often consulted by other congregations about how to get more volunteers involved.

On the other hand, people who have joined in the last few years see us very much as a mainstream synagogue, and some expect that services and programming will be provided, just as if they were back home at Beit Elsewhere, while they were growing up. They are frustrated and puzzled by our requests for volunteers: the congregation is so big now, why not just have the office staff handle this? Why not hire a staff person to take care of these things?

This attitude spills over into ritual matters, as well. Of course, when we did not have a rabbi, we were content to have lay leaders officiating at our life-cycle ceremonies. They worked hard at it, and did a good job. Now that we have a rabbi, some members are unwilling to settle for a lay leader officiating at their life cycle. The fact that we have such a wonderful rabbi sometimes leads us to abandon our values of lay leadership and collective responsibility, and fall into the easier model of ceding authority to professionals.

And, of course, there are many situations in which a professional person *can* do something better. Anyone who has ever had the pleasure of seeing Rabbi Kahn teach a class or listened in awe as he gave the eulogy at a funeral, or watched Lea Salem juggle phone calls and strange mail and dueling databases and somehow keep everything organized and well-managed, knows this fact. The problem is how to balance this fact against the need to empower and teach our volunteers, who are certainly capable of doing a very fine job.

In truth, we cannot choose just one of these two seemingly contradictory paths. We are long past the point of being able — or wanting — to do it all with volunteers. Our office work alone takes at least 70 person-hours per week, more than we could hope to accomplish with volunteers. And our Rabbi is a vital, much depended-upon part of our

*continued from page 5*  
community, providing education, liturgical advice and guidance, ritual and life-cycle observance, and counseling for which our volunteers are not trained. On the other hand, even with the expanded resources we hope that our new fundraising will generate, we cannot realistically afford to turn over the running of our synagogue to professionals. Happily, then, some inevitably awkward balancing between these two extremes is where we must end up.

As we move forward into this new era and our new fundraising campaign, then, dedicating ourselves to providing more services and more programs to our members, we need to remind ourselves not to lose track of the value of lay leadership. We cannot, and will not, raise enough money to just turn everything over to staff. Were we to do that, we would lose much of what makes us so unique, so welcoming, and so empowering. Instead, we have the opportunity to make more programs and services available, while expanding the opportunities for each of us to get involved, and become empowered as lay leaders. I hope to see each of you support others who have taken that step, and take on that challenge yourself.

## Oneg Sponsors

These generous people sponsored onegs during the month of September:

- 9/9 **Jeff Rubin & Frank Bush**, in honor of their thirteenth anniversary.
- 9/16 **Benjamin Brody**, to commemorate the yahrzeit of his partner, Jason Lazzeri.
- 9/23 **Daphne Stuart, Jim Frazin & Ruth Goldstein**, in honor of their birthdays.
- 9/30 **Susan L. Feldman & Jeffrey Argentos**, in honor of their marriage.

## Classifieds

**PROSPECTIVE QUEER PARENTS:** Support group and meeting place for lesbians and gay men seeking a known donor or co-parenting situation. Meets second Sunday of the month. For locations and more information call Leland (510/843-4663).

**WE ARE TWO DYKES** living in a wonderful 2-bedroom flat in the Castro, who want to buy our building. We're looking for like-minded people to buy the other flat as tenants-in-common. \$450,000, (\$225,000 per flat), 20% down. Two-car garage, yard, 8-min. walk to the Castro Theatre. For more information, call Rose Katz or Carol Seajay, 431-2093.

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## Twice Blessed

A six week support group for Jewish lesbians and gay men begins on October 17, 7-9 pm in Los Gatos. Explore topics including cultural & religious issues, coming out to family & others, interfaith relationships, being Jewish in the gay community. For more information & registration, please call Karen Belford, MSW (399-2202), Jewish Family Service.

## Free Voter Registration Hotline

The Secretary of State operates a toll-free voter registration hotline: 800/345-VOTE or Spanish 800/232-VOTA.

It can't get much easier to register to vote. A free phone call to request a form, and the caller receives a postage-paid form that takes approximately two minutes to fill out. It's simple, convenient, and important.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Birthdays

### October

- 2 Gregory Rubin
- 2 Sharyn Saslafsky
- 3 Steve Davis
- 4 Mark Mackler
- 4 Richard Inlander
- 4 Julie Moed
- 5 Benjamin Bernard-Herman
- 7 Randy Heilbrunn
- 7 Mike Zimmerman
- 7 David Wasserman
- 7 Scott Feinstein
- 8 Marc Cohen
- 9 Stephen Hauptman
- 10 Lisa Ginsburg
- 11 Forrest Kincade
- 12 Jeffrey Lilly
- 12 Debra Chasnoff
- 13 Joshua Kennedy-Rose
- 13 Samuel Braveman-Kennedy
- 13 David Gellman
- 14 Michael Bettinger
- 15 Tsipora Frantz Prochovnick
- 16 Kim Klausner
- 16 David Stier
- 17 Andrea Palash
- 17 Deborah Hoffmann
- 18 Steven Horowitz
- 18 Lisa Ellen Niver
- 20 Bernard D. Pechter
- 20 Bonnie Weissberg-Sutin
- 21 Yehuda Hyman
- 21 Charles Norton
- 23 Seth Charney
- 23 Ma'ayan Lieberman
- 24 Susan Morton
- 24 Shuli Goodman
- 25 Judith Cohen
- 26 Ilana Bernstein
- 27 Sanford Lowe
- 28 Rabbi Yoel Kahn
- 28 Ilana Rainero-DeHaan
- 29 Allan Berenstein
- 29 Samuel Kaplan
- 29 Pamela Miller
- 31 Jesse Hornstein

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Members' Yahrzeits

- 10/3 Rabbi Ben Marcus
- 10/6 Jeffrey Miller
- 10/8 Duane Kearns Puryear
- 10/18 Henry Mautner
- 10/20 Harvey Levine
- 10/24 Glenn Murray Miller



The oneg room, Erev Rosh Hashanah. Photo by Michael Bettinger.

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## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions of all sizes to mark any event and to add to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless otherwise requested.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### *AIDS Fund*

**Susan L. Feldman**, in memory of Bruce Priebe.

**Steve Gaynes**, in memory of Conrad Reny.

### *Education Fund*

**Allen Harris & David Gary**, in honor of the birth of Andrew Paul Berenstein.

### *General Fund*

**David Gellman**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Pam Erwin & Susan Unger**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold and in honor of the birth of Naftali Samuel Eisenman Moed.

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in honor of the arrival of Hannah Vera Pines-Schwartz.

**Rose Katz**, in honor of the arrival of Hannah Vera Pines-Schwartz.

**Mark Mackler & Ingu Yun**, in honor of Robin Leonard & Lee Ryan's new home.

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Fay Dubins and in honor of the marriage of Dotte & Don Antelman.

**Arlene Elster**, in memory of Pearl Elster.

**Jody Reiss**, in honor of the birth of Naftali Samuel Eisenman Moed and in honor of the arrival of Hannah Vera Pines-Schwartz.

**Barbara J. Seidman**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Ron Wilmot**, in memory of Frank Hyman.

**Martin Sugarman**, in honor of Stanley Sugarman.

**Sharyn Saslafsky & Catherine Dodd**, in honor of the birth of Andrew Paul Berenstein.

**Oscar & Margaret Rosenbloom**  
**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in memory of Irving Siltan.

**Helen & Gilbert Cohen**, in honor of Ellie Cohen.

**Leonie Darwin**, in honor of Jerry Rosenstein.

**Dick Radvon**, in loving memory of Tal Barshank and to thank Daniel Chesir for his thoughtfulness.

**Mike Zimmerman**, in memory of Max Ganz.

**Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Wiseman**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Larry Wexler**, in honor of the birth of Shayna Frantz Prochovnick, the

**Ruth Opper**, to commemorate of the yahrzeit of Dan Sela.

**Carol & Buddy Levitin**, in honor of Ron Wilmot's birthday.

**Hal Podgur**, in memory of Lou Lewis.

**David Horn**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Ingu Yun & Mark Mackler**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Diane Cash**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Mali & Mike Katz**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

**Shelly Eisenman & Julie Moed**, in appreciation of Susan Unger & Pam Erwin.

**Catherine Dodd & Sharyn Saslafsky**, in memory of Cy Bellm.

**Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz**, in honor of the tenth anniversary of Jonathan Funk & John Arnold.

### *Kadimah Fund*

**Susan L. Friedman & Jeffrey Argentos**, in memory of Cy Bellm.

**Zosia Zaks**, in memory of Noah Porter.

**Phyllis & George Mintzer**, in memory of Harry Opal and Isaac Mintzer.

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in memory of Cy Bellm.

**Seth Charney**, in memory of Morris Charney.

**Richard Inlander**, in memory of Bill Schlichter.



*Rabbi Kahn greeting Bernard Pechter, Erev Rosh Hashanah.  
Photo by Michael Bettinger.*

arrival of Hannah Vera Pines-Schwartz and in appreciation of Carolyn Pines' leadership of the Membership Committee.

**Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz**, in honor of the birth of Naftali Samuel Eisenman Moed.

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## New Member Potluck

All members, prospective members, families and friends of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav are invited to attend the next New Member Potluck on Sunday, November 6 from 4-7 pm. This event will be hosted by Mike Rankin, who lives at 5 Red Rock Way in San Francisco.

New members who have joined in the past year will be honored, and all members are encouraged to come meet, eat, and shmooze. Nonmembers who are thinking about joining CSZ are also welcome.

Please bring your favorite dish, according to the season in which you celebrate your birthday:

Winter:	Salad or appetizer
Spring:	Main dish
Summer:	Beverages
Fall:	Dessert

For more information, directions to Mike's, and to RSVP, please call Susan Stahl (333-6198). See you there!

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

Jeff Mendelsohn

Alison Austin & Dee Hibbert-Jones

Linda Michels

Leslie Katz

Emily Eliot Miller

Dan Alpert

Leora Eisenberg

Debra Rein

Gwen Schwartz

William Snow & Henri Neilson

David Alan Schnur

Sheldon Rizen

Rebecca Prozan

Mark Allan Troy

Deborah Wald, Brooke Shields &  
Ezekiel Shields Wald

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

## Convert

to the reception area where I accepted congratulations for this new beginning. I was overwhelmed, and yet this step

*continued from page 7*  
seemed such a natural development in my life. I wrote a poem which speaks of the mystery and wonder so much a part of my conversion.

### To be a Jew

Perhaps it was the day,  
a day after the beginning,  
but yet a beginning,  
the day that first I  
a Jew deeply felt,  
and with this sudden knowledge  
came an accepting sense  
for whom I had secretly been  
and was becoming.  
There was a moment of slight terror,  
a boggy stepping in,  
an unwanted gatekeeper there,  
and then bravely onward was I drawn,  
adoring the Hand  
that is my distant Home.  
the Presager of being  
that led me to first candle's  
winter's lighting  
there in Union Square,  
I standing with a sea of companions  
waiting in joyous expectancy  
for the continuance.

Alex Rader

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 Adam L. Frey, in honor of Joe Hample & Reineres Susbilla  
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 Joyce Garay  
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 Kirsten Gustavson  
 Stanley Hauer  
 Lawrence Helman, in memory of Fred Nathan  
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 Renée Leicher, in honor of Juliette Schlesinger & Susan Schwartz  
 Nathaniel G. Lew  
 Glen Jared Mechaber  
 David Meggyesy  
 Eve Meyer  
 Sarah Nathe  
 Ellen Oppenheimer  
 Jonathan Pannor, in honor of his lasting friendship with Sylvia Weisenberg  
 Ellen Paternack  
 Deirdre Pearl  
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 Sunny Rosenfeld  
 Margaret Rossoff  
 Peter Rothaug  
 Paul Rubin  
 Barry Savage & Tom Sinclair  
 Joel Schechter & Diana Scott  
 Stewart Surks  
 Dr. Ruth F. Taylor, in memory of Leo Disraeli

## Synagogue Information

### Rabbi Yoel Kahn

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*Social Program*, by committee  
*Volunteer Coordinator*, Robin Leonard  
*Women's Chavurah*, Donna Rabinowitz

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Office Hours:** Monday–Friday from 9 am to 3 pm. Please call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav are ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have the rabbi or a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member** of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Robin Leonard, Allyce Kimerling, liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Lane Schickler, liaison).

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

**Gift Shop Hours:** Fridays, 7:30–8:05 pm.

**Library Hours:** Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Sam Thal  
 Marion H. Trentman  
 Roy B. Unger, in memory of Grace F. Unger

Corinne Sue Wick, in memory of  
 Nettie & Louis Wick  
 Christine N. Witzel  
 Jan Zobel



<b>1</b> Saturday 26 Tishri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>11 am, Infant-Toddler Group, Douglass Park</li> </ul>	<b>10</b> Monday 5 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting</li> </ul>	<b>17</b> Monday 12 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 pm, Healing service</li> <li>7 pm, Newsletter proofreading/layout</li> </ul>	<b>24</b> Monday 19 Heshvan 
<b>2</b> Sunday 27 Tishri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 pm, Jewish Domestic Violence Program — Shalom Bayit</li> </ul>	<b>11</b> Tuesday 6 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Bioethics Seminar</li> </ul>	<b>18</b> Tuesday 13 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Bioethics Seminar</li> </ul>	<b>25</b> Tuesday 20 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Bioethics Seminar</li> </ul>
<b>3</b> Monday 28 Tishri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 pm, Healing Service</li> </ul>	<b>12</b> Wednesday 7 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Newsletter editing</li> <li>7:15 pm, Herstory: A Woman's Eye View of the Jewish Experience</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew</li> </ul>	<b>19</b> Wednesday 14 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15 pm, Herstory: A Woman's Eye View of the Jewish Experience</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew</li> </ul>	<b>26</b> Wednesday 21 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15 pm, Herstory: A Woman's Eye View of the Jewish Experience</li> <li>8:30 pm, Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew</li> </ul>
<b>4</b> Tuesday 29 Tishri 	<b>13</b> Thursday 8 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm, Children's Education meeting</li> </ul>	<b>20</b> Thursday 15 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Angels in America</li> <li>7 pm, Bikkur Cholim meeting</li> </ul>	<b>27</b> Thursday 22 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30 pm, Ritual Committee meeting</li> <li>7 pm, Angels in America</li> <li>7 pm, Newsletter distribution</li> </ul>
<b>5</b> Wednesday 30 Tishri <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30 pm, Introduction to Judaism/Choosing Judaism Open House</li> </ul>	<b>14</b> Friday 9 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service led by Mike Rankin and Dana Vinicoff</li> </ul>	<b>21</b> Friday 16 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Bay Services</li> <li>6:30 pm, Shabbat Dinner for 20 somethings</li> <li>7 pm, Marin/Sonoma Chavurah potluck Shabbat dinner, Paul Cohen &amp; Bob Gutterman's home, 383-8954</li> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service led by Rabbi Kahn &amp; Steve Weitz</li> </ul>	<b>28</b> Friday 23 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 pm, Tot Shabbat</li> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service led by Daniel Chesir &amp; Tova Green</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> Friday 2 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:15 pm, Shabbat service led by Rabbi Kahn &amp; Jody Reiss</li> </ul>	<b>15</b> Saturday 10 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>3 pm, Spiritual Support for People Living with HIV, facilitated by Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>	<b>22</b> Saturday 17 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>11:30 am, Kadimah Family Session: Jewish Identity</li> </ul>	<b>29</b> Saturday 24 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>6:30 pm, Women's Chavurah Havdalah and potluck at Audrey Adelson's home, 510/849-3021</li> </ul>
<b>8</b> Saturday 3 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 am, Kadimah</li> <li>10:30 am, Shabbat service and Bat Mitzvah of Kellen Kaiser-Klimist</li> </ul>	<b>16</b> Sunday 11 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noon, Peninsula Chavurah potluck brunch, Frank Yellin's home, 369-7510</li> <li>1 pm, Laurel Heights/Presidio Heights/Richmond District Chavurah potluck brunch, Robin Leonard's home, 386-7876</li> </ul>	<b>23</b> Sunday 18 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 pm, Berkeley Chavurah potluck brunch, Audrey Adelson's home, 510/849-3021</li> </ul>	<b>30</b> Sunday 25 Heshvan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 am, Kaiser brunch</li> <li>2 pm, Bioethics Seminar</li> </ul>
<b>9</b> Sunday 4 Heshvan 			<b>31</b> Monday 26 Heshvan 

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

## OCTOBER FORWARD DEADLINES

### FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

To place a display ad, call Barney Ugarte (510/658-7291).

To place a classified ad, call the office.

### FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

Write us an article! Type it *double spaced*, write "Attn: Gaily Forward" on top, and mail or fax (861-6081) to CSZ. If possible, submit it on a 3 1/2-inch disk too: this will help keep our costs down. *No deadline extensions without advance permission from the newsletter chair* (621-7675).

## East Bay Services

- 10/21 Ida and Evan Kuluk and Susan Spott's, 4042 Maple Ave., Oakland, 510/530-4673
- 11/18 Shelley Spiro and Gabrielle Kassner's, 2431 Burlington St., Oakland, 510/482-5967
- 12/16 Claudia Bernard and Howard Herman's, 644 Fairmount, Oakland, 510/658-0123



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